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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  
Frampton E. Ellis, III

Serial No.  
09/955,916

Filing Date:  
November 13, 2001

For:  
Method for the Examination of  
Utility Patent Application

Group Art Unit:  
Not Yet Assigned

Examiner:  
Not Yet Known

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R.**  
**§1.97(b)(1)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and 1.97(b)(1), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Substitute Form PTO 1449 (in duplicate). As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the national phase filing, no fee is believed to be due. However, if any fee is due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0462. Moreover, please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0462.

**Certificate of Mail Under 37 CFR 1.10**

**Date: February 7, 2002**

I hereby certify that this paper, along with any document or paper referred to as being attached, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage under 37 CFR 1.8 in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231.

*Lynne Webb*

Name of person signing document

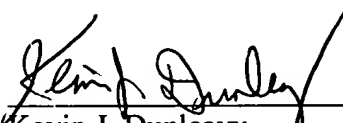
*Lynne Webb*

Signature of person signing document

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Substitute PTO 1449 form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art". If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the applicant and Applicant determined that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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